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Identical letters dated 21 November 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write about an appalling escalation of terrorism directed at Israeli civilians. Hours ago, terrorists exploded a bomb on a city bus in the centre of Tel Aviv, one of Israel's great commercial centres and largest cities. More than 23 people were injured, many seriously. The terrorists launched this attack at the height of international efforts to reach a ceasefire.

Today's attack was another reminder about the enemies of peace in our region. Hamas has fired nearly 1,200 rockets into Israeli communities over the past 10 days — an average of one attack every eight minutes. Nearly half of Israel's population was placed under threat. Schools across the nation have been closed for more than a week. No nation, no Government and no people would tolerate such violence against its citizens. Israel will continue to take all necessary measures to defend its population.

Hamas has turned Gaza into a haven for global terrorists, a launching pad for rocket attacks and a giant warehouse for weapons flowing in from Syria, Libya, Sudan and, in particular, Iran.

Just today, Ali Larijani, the speaker of the Iranian parliament made clear once again that his country is arming the terrorists of Gaza. He said, "We are honored to be providing Palestinian people with military aid".

Palestinian terrorists also confirm that their weapons come from Iran. The head of the Islamic Jihad said just yesterday that "the entire world knows that Iran is the main source of our weapons".

For the sake of peace and security in our region, I call on the Security Council to speak loudly and clearly: condemn terror, condemn Hamas and condemn Iran and all nations that are providing the tools for terrorists to murder innocents in our region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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